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tion was the subject of addresses by B. F. Underwood, Dr. Herman Gasser, Dr. John E. Purdon and Harvey C. Alford. Sociology was considered by Rev. A. N. Somers, Bayard Holmes, M. D., Mrs. Florence Griswold Buckstaff and Miss Mary A. Dodge ("Gail Hamilton"). "Religion as Affected by Evolution" was the subject of papers and addresses by Dr. Charles T. Stockwell, Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, Rev. Howard MacQueary, E. P. Powell and others. Rev. M. J. Savage, Dr. Lewis G. Janes, C. Staniland Wake, Revs. Jenckin L. Jones and H. M. Simmons presented papers on "The Morals of Evolution." "Economics as Related to Evolution" was considered by James A. Skilton and others. An interesting feature was a symposium on this subject in the form of brief papers from Mr. John Fiske, Dr. Edmund Montgomery, Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, Benj. B. Kingsbury, F. M. Holland and others. There was not a note of discord during the entire Congress. A committee was appointed at a special meeting held last Sunday evening to arrange for another Evolution Congress in 1894.

—Those who are familiar with the volumes of Appleton's "International Education Series" will remember among them two on "The Mind of the Child," by W. Preyer, professor of physiology in the University of Jena; and the same author has now issued a smaller book on the same subject entitled "Mental Development in the Child," which has been translated into English by H. W. Brown, and published in the same series. The work is designed especially as an aid to mothers in training their young children; but we confess that we cannot see what mothers are to gain from it. It contains, to be sure, many sensible observations; but they are mostly commonplace, while on the other hand the book is full of doubtful physiological speculations expressed in technical language. Take, for instance, the following remarks about self-consciousness: "There are several grades of consciousness, lower

and higher, which have different seats—in the higher animals, particularly in the spinal marrow, cervical marrow, and brain. The highest grade, self-consciousness, so-called, which does not necessarily imply a strong self-esteem, has its seat in the gray substance of the cerebral cortex. It is therefore properly called the cortical *ego*." (p. 155). There is much more in the book of a similar sort; yet the reader must not think that there is nothing better. Professor Preyer has evidently been a close observer of very young children, and is familiar with their wants and ways; and he gives a fairly intelligible outline of their mental growth during the first three years of their lives. His remarks on the acquisition of language and on the manifestations of thought and reasoning before language is acquired are perhaps the best things in the book and are well worthy of attention from students of psychology. But the book cannot be accepted as a satisfactory treatise on the subject with which it deals.

—W. F. Yocum, A. M., D. D., accepted the position of Vice President and Professor of Philosophy and Political Economy in Florida Agricultural College, Oct. 1, 1893.

—Miss Mary Proctor, daughter of the late Richard A. Proctor, is delivering courses of lectures on astronomy to children, under the management of Major J. B. Pond, Everett House, New York.

—The Eleventh Congress of the American Ornithologists' Union will convene in Cambridge, Mass., on Tuesday, November 21, 1893, at eleven o'clock A. M. The meetings will be held in the Nash Lecture-room, University Museum, Oxford street. The reading of papers will form a prominent feature of the meetings. Associate as well as Active members are earnestly requested to contribute. Titles of communications and applications for membership should be sent to the Secretary, Mr. John H. Sage, Portland, Connecticut.

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### Wants.

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Professor Adams has executed a difficult task in an exemplary manner; his biography is well proportioned and well adapted to the purpose of a limited edition intended mainly for libraries and special students.—*Boston Literary World*.

A JAPANESE INTERIOR.—\$1.25.

The title, "A Japanese Interior," may be said to have a moral rather

than a material application, for while we are shown, sometimes with much graphic detail, the inner arrangements of a Japanese house, it is rather with the peculiarities of Japanese custom and the points of view incident to Japanese life that the volume before us has to do.

The letters which make up Miss Bacon's book were written during a residence in Tokyo as teacher in one of the schools for noble girls under the management of the Imperial Household Department. They are intimate in character, being chronicles of events and impressions imparted in a friendly and gossipy fashion to relatives at home, and having throughout that conversational atmosphere which, while wholly destructive of what is called "style," is a charming medium through which to view pictures of every-day life and character. The author frankly confesses that they resemble the product of a photographic camera rather than that of an artist's brush, and, having so said, she puts us quite at our ease and carries us along through her experiences in housekeeping, shopping and engaging of cooks, in *jinrikisha* riding and eating and church-going until we fairly forget our Occidental surroundings and begin to look about for a paper, parasol and a folding fan.

At the beginning of Miss Bacon's career she seems to have suffered much from the fact that her Anglicized Japanese was about as imperfect as the Japanized English of those about her. Time, however, meliorated this difficulty, and her comfort increased as the comedy of the situation lessened.

Not the least engaging of the subjects touched upon are the references to Japanese dress, festival and mourning costumes, and in some detailed descriptions, such as that of Yasaku's wedding and the Feast of Dolls at a Daimio's Yashiki, we have narratives of unusual interest. The volume is pleasant, chatty and withal instructive in such matters as a stay-at-home wishes to understand.—*Philadelphia Bulletin*.

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